COMMONWEALTH BANKS, INC. SLATES SIXTH LARGEST

RICHMOND - Commonwealth Banks, Inc. began operations today, Dec. 31, 1978, as the state's sixth largest multibank holding company. The new $1.6 billion organization is the result of the consolidation of the seventh and eighth largest bank holding companies in Virginia, Fidelity American Bankshares, Inc. in Lynchburg, and Central National Corporation in Richmond.

Alvin R. Clements, formerly president and chief executive officer of Fidelity, is chairman of the board of Commonwealth Banks, Inc., and Carroll L. Saine, formerly president and chief executive officer of Central, is president of Commonwealth Banks, Inc.

In a joint statement issued today, the two executives expressed their satisfaction with the efficient manner in which the consolidation process has proceeded over the past year. They commented, "Understandably a combination of this magnitude takes a great deal of time and effort, and we are extremely pleased with our progress to date. We anticipate that 1979 will be a year of further development and continued progress for the new company.

Both Clements and Saine indicated that there would be little change visible to the banks' customers inasmuch as the affiliates of Commonwealth Banks will continue to trade under their existing names and adhere to an established policy of local levels of decision making.

Plans to form Commonwealth Banks, Inc. first were revealed in November, 1977 when executive committees of both holding companies announced approval of an agreement in principle to consolidate. Ratification by the respective boards followed a month later. In special meetings held in Richmond and Lynchburg last September, stockholders of both companies overwhelmingly endorsed the consolidation and on October 31, 1978, the Federal Reserve Board added its approval.

On a pro forma basis, as of September 30, 1978, the two companies forming Commonwealth Banks, Inc. had combined total assets of $1,633 billion, with total deposits of $1.343 billion and loans of $940 million.

As previously announced, headquarters for the new company will be in Richmond in Central National Bank's main office building at Third and Board Streets.

The new company will serve the state through 14 banks having 126 branches and through 13 bank-related affiliates. Included in CBI's bank affiliates are The Central National Bank of Richmond; City Savings Bank and Trust Company, Petersburg; The First National Bank of Yorktown; Central Bank of Northern Virginia; First Manassas Bank and Trust; Cavalier Central Bank and Trust Company, Hopewell; and the Citizens National Bank of Emporia.

Also in this listing are Fidelity American Bank NA, Lynchburg, southside, central, and western Virginia; Fidelity American Bank, Charlottesville; Fidelity American Bank NA, Culpeper; Fidelity American Bank, Eastern Shore; Fidelity American Bank NA, Northern Virginia; Fidelity American Bank NA, Richmond; and Fidelity Amrican Bank, Hampton Roads, Williamsburg, Portsmouth, Suffolk, and Virginia Beach.

Commonwealth's 13 bank-related affiliates offer insurance, mortgage lending, investment and other financial services and provide internal support for the parent company and its banking affiliates.

"CUT FROM THE TENDER PART OF THE CHUCK"
IMPERIAL ROAST
BONELESS $1.39 lb.

SAVE ON...
Jamestown Sausage
1-lb. PKG. 69¢

(SAVE 63¢) CAMPBELL'S CHICKEN
NOODLE SOUP
6 10¾-oz. CANS 99¢
LIMIT 6 WITH $7.50 OR MORE PURCHASE EXCLUDING BONUS FEATURES

KRISPY Richfood SALTINE CRACKERS

(Save 78¢) Richfood Saltine Crackers
3 1-lb. BOXES 99¢
LIMIT 3 WITH $7.50 OR MORE PURCHASE EXCLUDING BONUS FEATURES

(SAVE 40¢)
JENO'S SAUSAGE, PEPPERONI, HAMBURGER OR CHEESE PIZZA
89¢ 13½-oz. PKG.

EXTRA FANCY VA. GROWN WINESAP, RED ROME OR RED STAYMAN
COOKING APPLES
YOUR CHOICE 3 lbs. 69¢

WE GIVE S&H GREEN STAMPS

KING'S
"To Us -- You're Special!"

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PRICES EFFECTIVE: JANUARY 3 - 6, 1979

Swift's Premium Protein BEEF
MEAT VALUES

BRIGGS MEAT OR BEEF, REG. OR JUMBO FRANKS 1-lb. PKG. $1.29
HILLSHIRE FARMS SMOKED MEAT, BEEF, KIELBASA Sausage lb. $1.69
PORK LIVER lb. 49¢
PORK SPARE RIBS lb. $1.09
SALT PORK (SIZE 10-lbs. & DOWN) Fat Backs lb. 49¢
OSCAR MAYER MEAT OR BEEF BOLOGNA 12-oz. PKG. $1.29

DELICATESSEN VALUES!
KAHN'S MEAT OR BEEF BOLOGNA lb. $1.79
KAHN'S OLD FASHION LOAF lb. $1.99
WHITE OR YELLOW AMERICAN CHEESE lb. $1.89

PRODUCE VALUES
U.S. NO. 1 YELLOW ONIONS 3 lbs. 39¢
CRISP FRESH CUKES OR GREEN PEPPERS 3 FOR 49¢
FANCY FRESH EGG PLANT lb. 29¢
FANCY FLORIDA PINK OR WHITE SEEDLESS GRAPEFRUIT 5-lb. BAG 79¢

FROZEN FOOD BUYS
(SAVE 50¢) TROPICANO ORANGE JUICE 64-oz. BOT. 99¢
WEAVER Thighs & Drumsticks 28 Oz. Box SAVE 30¢ 2.69

GROCERY VALUES
(SAVE 42¢) RICHFOOD Thin Spaghetti 3 16-oz. BOXES 99¢
(SAVE 71¢) RICHFOOD 4-ROLL Bathroom Tissue 2 PACKS 99¢
LIMIT 2 WITH $7.50 OR MORE PURCHASE EXCLUDING BONUS FEATURES
(SAVE 29¢) RICHFOOD Spaghetti SAUCE 2 15-oz. JARS 99¢
(SAVE 46¢) NESTLE'S Chocolate Quik 16-oz. BOX $1.19
(SAVE 35¢) REG. OR OLD FASHION KING'S BREAD 3 22-oz. LOAVES 99¢
(SAVE $1.00) SIGNAL MOUTHWASH & GARGLE 24-oz. BOT. 99¢
JACK RABBIT PINTO BEANS 2-lb. BAG 59¢
SHORTENING CRISCO 3-lb. CAN $1.89
RICHFOOD BLEACH GAL. JUG. 59¢

SHOP AT KING'S FOR SUPER VALUES!

DOUBLE S&H GREEN STAMPS ON TUESDAY!

King's Fresh Bakery
AT KING'S WE ALWAYS HAVE A WIDE SELECTION OF FRESHLY BAKED GOODS FOR ANY OCCASION.
COME BY AND CHECK OUT OUR "FRESHNESS" AND YOU'LL BE GLAD YOU DID!!

MASONIC NOTICE
An Open Installation Of Officers.
Monroe Lodge
No. 301
LEE STREET
MONDAY,
Jan. 11, 1979 at 8 p.m.
All Master Masons and Their Families are Fraternally Invited.
L. RAY HUDSON, W.M.
C. M. FRANKLIN, SECT.

TIMES-VIRGINIAN

A LIVELY WEEKLY NEWSPAPER AT HISTORIC APPOMATTOX COURT HOUSE, VIRGINIA

JEAN T. BEAR, HEAD
VIRGINIA STATE LIBRARY
RICHMOND, VA. 23219

JAN 11 1979

STATE LIBRARY, VIRGINIA

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Father Darkleaf

BY CALVIN ROBINSON

The Sun rose this morning (Monday) at four minutes after seven. So did I. Days are getting longer, as evidenced by the fact that by the time you read this on Thursday, daylight hours will last for two more minutes. I do not plan to continue all year "rising with the Sun" for by mid June that would mean being up and ready for breakfast before five A.M.

* * *

No useful purpose is served by writing about the weather on a Monday, when you know full well changes will be made. Nevertheless, it was a wet week end. Such as for the Pittsburgh Steeler, Houston Oiler football games. Oil and water do not mix too well, so the Oilers lost. On Martha Street, a few flakes of snow began falling at 6 p.m. Friday and by morning had stacked up to less than two inches. No problem. But enough snow for some alert youngsters to make a snowman; I counted eight snowmen. Most of them had on a hat and wore glasses and had a pipe in the mouth. By Monday morning the snowmen had melted. Had they survived a bit longer, they would have been greeted by colder weather.

* * *

Meanwhile, seed and nursery catalogs are arriving. New All-American flower selections include: Peter Pan Gold Zinnia, Nicki-Red Nicotiana and Queen Sophie Marigold.

* * *

I have been asked to try to locate a copy of the book on Appomattox by the late N. R. Featherston, published in cooperation with the local American Legion. If you know of one for sale, write me and I will pass along the information.

* * *

Had a pleasant chat with Mrs. Edith Gregory, formerly of Appomattox, now of Fairfax. Her talented daughter, Edna, was a star performer in Paul Green's outdoor drama, "The Founders", presented so .e years ago near Colonial Williamsburg. She taught school in Fairfax and now is a specialist in Pottery. I remember attending a performance of "The Founders", and wrote an editorial commending same.

* * *

James Jackson Kilpatrick, noted columnist and TV commentator, founded a group known as The Black-Eyed Pea Society of America. I was charter member number 276. Black-eyed Peas and stewed tomatoes are culinary companions and especially so on the menu for New Year's Day. So . . thanks to a friend, that is what we enjoyed eating New Year's Day, 1979.

* * *

The ancient and honorable art of chinking is well-advised in cold, windy weather. To chink is to wedge papers, rags or wathaveyou into crevices and cracks and doors and windows to keep cold air from chilling your house. Insulation in the attic also helps. I have noticed that some of the same woodpiles are already dwindling and winter has just started. Notta bwop warm.

* * *

'Address lists are in better shape now, because many friends and relatives thoughtfully put their return address on greeting cards. Keeping an up-to-date address list is important.

So endeth this visit with cherished readers. Thanks and seeya next week.

* * *

TOWN TAGS ON SALE IN PAMPLIN

Automobile license tags for the Town of Pamplin are now on sale at the Town Office each week day and on Saturdays from 9 to 12 noon through the month of January only.

Appomattox Primary PTA Announces Program on Childhood Disease Prevention

Mrs. Faye Stratton, President of Appomattox Primary School Parent-Teacher Association, has announced that a special program on childhood disease prevention will be presented during their club's meeting on Thursday, January 18, at 7:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria. Because of the nature and importance of the subject matter, the public is invited.

The main feature of the program, Mr. Joe Fiorie of the State Health Department said, will be the showing of "A Gift, An Obligation," a film that dramatically portrays the danger of childhood disease and the necessity for vaccination. The film features Cliff Robertson, well-known screen and television actor. Enggie attending the meeting will receive a brochure that includes a schedule showing which vaccinations should be received when. Time will be allowed for questions on the diseases and vaccination.

The reason for the program, Mrs. Stratton explained explained, is that many children are not receiving all of their vaccinations. As a result, diseases that can be prevented - polio, measles, mumps, rubella, diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis - are still striking young children. In addition to causing needless illness, the disease can lead to serious, sometimes fatal complications.

"One of the most common mistakes," she said, "is to wait until the child approaches school age before having him or her vaccinated. This leaves the child in danger during the years when some of the diseases are most likely to hit, with the most severe complications."

Parents are urged to check their records to make sure that all of their children have received all of their vaccinations, and notes that some especially prepared booklets will be made available for those who need them.

The film is presented by the American Academy of Pediatrics, a professional organization of physicians who specialize in the care of infants, children, and adolescents, and was produced with grant support from Health Information Services, Merck Sharp & Dohme, Division of Merck & Co., Inc.

How Rare Is Your Blood?

Many people, although they know their Blood Group (O, A, B, or AB) and their Blood Type (RH-Positive or RH-Negative) have no idea whether their blood is rare, common or something in between. The Appalachian Red Cross Blood Center, after processing over 545,000 pints of blood in the last twenty-one years, can document the following:

Average-wise, out of every one hundred, thirty-nine will be O-Positive; seven O-Negative; thirty-four will be A-Positive; six will be A-Negative; eight will be B-Positive; two B-Negative; three and one-half will be AB-Positive; one-half AB-Negative. Thus, average-wise, there will be only one AB-Negative in every two hundred donors, the rarest blood by far.

Although the O Group is the most common it can, under emergent circumstances, become the most rare. This is because the O Group is the so-called "universal group," meaning it can be given to the other Groups. Thus as O-Positive, if it is compatible with the recipient's blood, can be given to an A-Positive, a B-Positive, an AB-Positive, and O-Negative, if compatible, can be given to all Groups-Types; O, A, B, and AB Positives, O, A, B, and AB Negatives. Thus an O-Negative becomes the one Group-Type for which there is no substitute.

Check your Red Cross Blood Donor Card and see how rare your blood is.

Whatever your type, rare or common, make plans now to be on hand to donate blood at the next visit of the Red Cross Bloodmobile in Appomattox on Monday, January 29, 1979. YOUR BLOOD IS NEEDED!

C.P.R. Class Planned Next Week

A C.P.R. Class will be taught next week at the Appomattox County Rescue Squad building. The two-night class will be held on Monday night, January 15, and on Wednesday night, January 17.

If interested in taking this course, be at the Appomattox County Rescue Squad Building Monday night at 7 p.m.

Instructors will be Newton Tolley and Pat O'Brien, both members of the local rescue squad.

Lions Club To Meet Tonight

The Appomattox Lions Club will meet tonight, Thursday, at 6:45 p.m. at Maude's Restaurant.

George F. Abbitt will be in charge of the program for the evening. Members attending will be entertained with "bluegrass" music by George Abbitt, Sam Conner, Bob Williamson, and Tom Childers.

All members will want to be present at this meeting.

Wayne M. Keffer

Presented Distinguished Service Award

Wayne M. Keffer, District Agent for the Virginia Extension Service in Southwest Virginia, was recently presented the Distinguished Service Award by the National Association of Extension 4-H Agents at the Association's 32nd annual conference in Atlanta, Georgia. Dr. Keffer has his office in Abingdon. He is formerly of Appomattox.

Keffer who among sixty-three Extension professionals from across the nation who received the award. The award is the highest honor given Extension professionals working with the 4-H program.

The Distinguished Service Award is presented to individuals who have devoted many hours of extra effort to Extension youth programs and has shown unusual personal dedication in doing so. Each state, the National 4-H Council, and Federal Extension Service may select one nominee for every fifty NAEA members. Nominees must have at least seven years of Extension tenure.

An employee of the Virginia Cooperative Extension Service for 12 years, Keffer was Extension Agent in Rockbridge County for four years. He was assigned to the East Central District Extension Office in Appomattox from 1971 to 1974 as Program Leader, 4-H and from 1976 until 1978 as District Agent.

Dr. Keffer resides in Abingdon with his wife, Nancy, and their three children, Kimberly, Kevin, and Kendall.

Town of Pamplin To Conduct Census Survey

Students from a neighboring College will be making house-to house calls in the Town of Pamplin in the near future conducting a survey to update the 1970 population census. At present, the 1970 census information is out of date and is not useful for town needs and references.

These students will be asking questions concerning type of housing, income, number in the household, etc. Names need not be given on the survey form. All information will go directly to the Piedmont Planning District Commission in Farmville, who is making this survey possible.

A letter from the Mayor of Pamplin will accompany the survey.

Crewman of the Year

Paul O. "Pete" Doss, right above, was honored Sunday night when he was presented a plaque naming him "Crewman of the Year" for 1978. The plaque was presented to "Pete" by James C. Rogers, Captain of the local squad. He was chosen for this honor by vote of fellow members.

In 1978, "Pete" will be serving the squad as Board of Governors Representative and as 2nd Lieutenant Junior. A charter member of the squad, he has held various offices during the years and is an outstanding member.

We congratulate "Pete" on being chosen "Crewman of the Year" for 1978.

Adult Education Classes To Start

Registration for Second Semester Adult Education Classes will start this week and will continue until February 1. Adults who are interested and who want to participate in classes that are being offered the second semester by the Appomattox County School Division are requested to register now by calling 352-8253 between the hours of 8:30 - 5:30 or by mailing in a registration form. Please look at the class schedule located elsewhere in this issue of the Times-Virginian for information concerning classes offered.

Persons who desire information concerning an adult class are requested to contact the School Board Office by calling 352-8253.

Fewer Highway Fatalities In 1978

RICHMOND - Motor vehicle crashes on Virginia's highways resulted in 68 fewer fatalities in 1978 than in 1977, including 22 fewer pedestrian deaths.

Preliminary statistics released recently by the Department of State Police indicate that 1077 fatalities have been recorded through December 31 as compared to 1145 in 1977. The 1978 total will likely rise when figures become complete.

"It is difficult," said Department Superintendent, Colonel D. M. Slane, "to become too enthusiastic about the 68 fewer deaths when the total is still so high. However, we are encouraged that there was some improvement and hopeful that this progress can be continued during the new year."

Reasons for the reduction in highway deaths can be attributed at least in part, to several factors, said a Department spokesman. First, he noted, motorists who must shoulder much of the burden for tragic highway accidents also must be given much of the credit for safer driving whenever there are fewer accidents.

Another contributing factor to the 1978 reduction could include a possible carry-over effect during January and February from Governor Godwin's Highway Crash Alert in late 1977. The Department recorded 60 highway deaths in January of 1978 and 1977, representing the lowest tallies for that month since 1964. In February of 1978, only 40 deaths were recorded and this was the lowest February figure since 1961.

A publication by the Federal Highway Administration shows Virginia as the nation's leader in motorist compliance with the 55 miles per hour speed limit for the second consecutive year. Lower speeds may well be the most important factor in reducing the severity of accidents.

A puzzling contradiction of sorts to Virginia's improved driving record is the startling number of fatalities over major holiday periods. In 1978, 109 persons were killed during the holiday periods of Memorial Day, July 4, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years compared to 67 in 1977.

Home Accident Prevention

The Safety Department of the Appomattox Junior Woman's Club has as its main objective, the promotion of Highway Safety, Recreational Safety, and Home Safety. It is hoped that the following may in some way be beneficial and spark an interest in making our home and community a safer place in which to live.

We think of home as a safe place. We drive out on crowded highways and thread our way through heavy traffic, and after several nerve-wracking hours during which we wonder whether we will return with the fenders on the automobile and our heads on our necks, we come back and say, "At last safe at home!" Safe, did you say? Well, you're wrong. According to statistics, home must be a very dangerous place indeed because so many accidents occur there. But the most tragic part about these accidents is that most of them need never have happened at all! The great majority of accidents in the home are the result of sheer carelessness. If a few simple precautions had been taken, most of them would never have happened.

Falling, Skidding, And Slipping Hazards

Falls take first place on the list of home accidents. One of the chief causes of falls is climbing up on a pyramid of boxes, chairs, books, or other objects to reach something. This is risky enough for a man, but a woman in high heels who does this is flirting with broken bones. Don't use a makeshift

Cont'd on Page 2

The Appomattox County Rescue Squad held its annual dinner and installation of officers for the new year on Sunday night, January 7, at the John Mosby Inn Restaurant.

New officers installed Sunday night by Ronald Spiggle, the installing officer, were, left to right on back row, Anderson Scruggs, President; Harry Ferguson, Jr., Vice President; Paul O. "Pete" Doss, Board of Governors Representative and 2nd Lieutenant Junior; James C. Rogers, Captain; 1st Lieutenant; and Newton Tolley, Sergeant of Motor Pool; and front row, left to right, are Gordon Staples, Communications Officer; Ray Noble, Training Officer; James C. Rogers, Captain; Lynn Lucado, Secretary; and "Dink" Lucado, Sergeant of Building & Grounds. Not present for photo were Abner Scruggs, 2nd Lieutenant Senior, and Toby Inge, Treasurer.

Rescue Squad Installs New Officers

The Appomattox County Rescue Squad marked another successful year of service to the people of Appomattox County when members, their wives / husbands, and other guests met Sunday evening at the John Mosby Inn Restaurant for a dinner and installation of officers for the new year.

James C. Rogers, Captain, recognized guests present and introduced Ronald Spiggle who spoke briefly to the group before installing the officers.

Members of the Appomattox County Rescue Squad average responding to over 50 calls each month with 90 percent of these persons requiring first aid and transportation to a hospital or doctor. All members are volunteers and have had all necessary training to become active members of this organization. They give of their time, day or night, in an effort to help their fellowman when in need and they never ask for nor expect anything in return.

The confidence of the people of the county is evidenced each year when "Fund Drive" time comes around. The members have never failed to reach the goal set for operating expenses and for updated equipment when needed.

All donations to the Appomattox County Rescue Squad go into the General Fund and are used for the sole purpose of rescue squad work. The dinner enjoyed once a year is made possible with the use of funds from projects sponsored by the squad members.

Land Most Valuable Asset to Farmers

By Robert E. McClenny, Jr.
District Conservationist
Soil Conservation Service

If you had a "prize" bull or a new fancy tractor, you'd keep a pretty close eye on it. You'd probably give the bull "shots" to protect him against most common ailments and the best feed and management you could provide. You'd store your "prize" tractor in the machine shed, keep it well greased and tuned-up. Matter of act, you'd probably insure it against loss, because it would be very difficult to replace.

For most farmers, their land is by far their most valuable asset, and the topsoil, the most valuable part of the land. Yet, many, who are most careful with their machinery, are reckless with the land. They plow up whole fields and plant their crops the "long way" of the field regardless of slope. After harvest, just to make sure there isn't anything "wasted" they run a few cows or other critters over it to glean the last few morsels. The field then lays naked through the winter until plowing time and it's back to the same "old shift."

With each rain, more and more of this field slips away with the runoff water, depleting the field and "muddying" the streams.

Sounds bad? This is the image that a small percentage of farmers have created and all must work to improve.

Sheet erosion has a way of slipping topsoil away without leaving telltale rills or gullies. Topsoil can leave by the truck-load and the farmer may never know it. Rill and gully erosion remind him with every jolt in the tractor seat.

Congress, in its concern over the environment, passed the Clean Water Act of 1972, which set as its goal to have our nation's waters fisherable and swimmable by 1983 and drinkable by 1985. Congress assigned the task of implementing the Clean Water Act to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). EPA has "farmed out" this responsibility in Virginia to the Virginia State Water Control Board. For the time being, EPA has agreed to a voluntary program for achieving the Clean Water goals in Virginia by working through local soil and water conservation districts. Virginia is one of only three states without a regulatory program. If water quality goals are not met voluntarily, EPA will insist on a regulatory program. Such a voluntary program is preferred by most farmers because it allows them a wide choice of practices that can be used so long as water quality goals are met, and of course, it will be chaper on the taxpayers. An enforcement organization to issue permits and make field inspections would be an additional burden to the taxpayers.

Your land is a lot like your tractor in that it needs regular protection and servicing. Conservationists of the USDA Soil Conservation Service, (SCS), can help cooperators of the Robert E. Lee Soil & Water Conservation District decide what practices to use to protect their land and the maintenance, tune-up, or major overhaul needed. By keeping your soil at home, you'll be doing your share to help clean up our nation's waters and ward off compulsory conservation.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY TO MEET JANUARY 15

The monthly meeting of the Friends of the Library will be held Monday, January 15, at 7:30 p.m. at the Library.

The Nomination Committee will present the slate of new offices. Members of that committee are Judy Conner, Minerva Kepler, Verna Conner, and Virginia Beard.

Installation of new officers will follow.

The Friends of the Library have presented a new desk set to the librarian.

EASTERN STAR TO MEET JANUARY 15

The regular monthly meeting of the Order of the Eastern Star will be held on Monday, January 15, 1978, in the Chapter Room at 8 p.m.

All members are urged to attend.

Virginia T. Ferguson, Sec.

Mark Sanborn

National FFA President To Speak To Appomattox FFA

National FFA president Mark Sanborn of Ohio will address the Appomattox Future Farmers of America chapter at its regular monthly meeting January 17.

Following the meeting, a reception is planned and the president will address area voting teachers.

This is the first time a national FFA president has visited Appomattox.

National FFA President To Address Ag Ed Teachers

Mark Sanborn, National FFA President from East Orwell, Ohio, will be the principal speaker during the winter conference of agricultural education instructors in Southside Virginia. The 14-county group will meet in the Appomattox County High School, Wednesday, January 17.

R. Q. Lawing, Jr., instructor of agriculture in the Buckingham Junior High School and area president, will preside over the sessions which will begin at 4:30 p.m. Others scheduled for presentations are Brandon Scott, William Campbell, State Vice President; and L. E. Williamson, Jr., Nottoway.

The group will be welcomed by D. L. Armentrout, principal of the host school. Special guests of the teachers will be the presidents of the 33 FFA chapters of Southside Virginia.